APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/028,034	12/21/2001	Andrew L. Shalit	7205-201	3135

			EXAMINER
26486	7590	09/20/2005	HALIYUR, VENKATESH N

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2664	

DATE MAILED: 09/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/028,034	SHALIT, ANDREW L.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Venkatesh Haliyur	2664	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS,
WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *12/21/2001*.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☐ Claim(s) *1-24* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☐ Claim(s) *1-24* is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date *1 page*.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-24 have been examined.

Priority

2.   This application claims the benefit of 60/261,347 01/12/2001.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Liversidge et al [Pub No. US 2002/00076025 A1] in view of Detampel et al [US Pat

6,181,786].

Regarding claim 1,13 Liversidge et al disclosed a "Method and System for

Automatic Handling of Invitations to Join Communications Sessions in a Virtual Team

Environment" for audio conferencing services to users over a computer network to

process a request from a computer client to set up a conference call among virtual team

members and inviting them to join the audio conference [Para 0013 to 0022 and 0063 to

0080, Fig 2 to 5].

Liversidge et al disclosed a mechanism for automatically inviting PSTN based telephone users for joining the conference, but fails to disclose sending a telephone number and access code for the invitees to dial in and join the audio conference.

However, Detampel et al disclosed a "Method and Apparatus for On-Demand Teleconferencing" a mechanism for sending a telephone number and PIN access code for the invitees to join the conference [Fig 1, Fig 6, column 3, lines 49-67, column4, lines 1-3, and column 4, lines 40-46].

Therefore it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to use the teachings of Detampel et al to provide telephone number and access code to selected users in the system of Liversidge et al to set up an audio conference over an online text messaging service connected over a computer network and instructing the selected users to call the telephone number using a telephone network and enter the access code to join the audio conference.

Regarding claim 2, 14, Liversidge et al disclosed a mechanism for entering the user profile [Fig 15, Para 0104,] for entering the personal information, but fails to disclose a mechanism for selecting a billing option to pay for the conference call when invitees call the telephone number.

However, Detampel et al disclosed a method for choosing a billing option including entering a credit card number in the system [item 311 of Fig 3, column 7, lines 57-67, column 8, lines 1-17].

Therefore it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to use the teachings of Detampel et al to provide billing options in the system of Liversidge et al to

choose a billing option when invitees call the telephone number to join the audio conference.

Regarding claim 3, 15, Liversidge et al disclosed a mechanism for keeping the conference session private without disclosing the personal information [Para 0115], but fails to disclose sending a common telephone number for all the invitees to dial in for the audio conference.

However, Detampel et al disclosed a single dial in number for use by all conference participants with out revealing personal telephone numbers to other users [column 4, lines 44-46].

Therefore it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to use the teachings of Detampel et al to include single dial in number method in the system of Liversidge et al wherein the users do not reveal personal information to other users.

Regarding claim 4,16, Liversidge et al disclosed a mechanism for automatically generating a session ID in their system [Para 0158], but fails to disclose spontaneous generation of access code.

However, Detampel et al disclosed a mechanism for sending an initial pass code to the conference invitee that is generated by the system [Fig 6, column 7, lines 65-67, column 8, lines 1-7].

Therefore it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to use the teachings of Detampel et al to include the method of spontaneous generation of access code in the system of Liversidge et al for invitees to dial in and enter access code to join the audio conference.

Regarding claim 5, 17, Liversidge et al disclosed a mechanism for allowing or declining a new team member for the conference [Fig 21 to 25, Para 0098 to 0101], but fails to disclose the locking and unlocking mechanism.

However, Detampel et al disclosed locking and unlocking audio conference to prevent or allow additional callers to join an audio conference [column 11,lines 20-67, column 12, lines 1-10].

Therefore it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to use the teachings of Detampel et al to include locking and unlocking mechanism in the system of Liversidge et al to prevent or allow additional callers to join an audio conference.

Regarding claim 6, 18, Liversidge et al disclosed a mechanism to send messages to other participants in the conference by clicking a send button to replicate the message to other participants [Fig 16, Fig 24, Para 0125] but fail to disclose a dial out mechanism.

However Detampel et al disclosed a conference control mechanism to dial outside lines [column 11,lines 46-67, column 12, lines 1-10].

Therefore it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to use the teachings of Detampel et al to include conference control mechanism in the system of Liversidge et al for user to click a button to dial out to the other selected users.

Regarding claims 7,10,11,19, 22, 23, Liversidge et al disclosed a mechanism to display the invitation message, topics, identification of the invitee and the options to join or decline for the audio conference [Para 0016, 0018 to 0020], but fails to disclose to provide the telephone number and identification code in the message.

However Detampel et al disclosed a method for bridge server distributing telephone number and pass code (PIN) to the participants for joining the audio conference [item 101 of Fig 7, column 3, lines 49-60].

Therefore it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to use the teachings of Detampel et al to include phone number and identification code in the system of Liversidge et al to display the conference invitation message that includes phone number and identification code on the computer screen of each selected user.

Regarding claim 8, 20, Liversidge et al disclosed in their system that both packet based and PSTN based communication devices working in collaboration through the collaboration server, but fails to disclose the audio conferencing service is operative at the same time as the text messaging service [Para 0021, 0071 and 0082].

However Detampel et al disclosed a conference control system for operating both audio conference and data service interface operating at the same time [column 4, lines 63-67, column 5, lines 1-19, column 6, lines, 47-50].

Therefore it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to use the teachings of Detampel et al to include conference control system in the system of Liversidge et al to operate audio conferencing service and text messaging service at the same time.

Regarding claim 9, 21, Liversidge et al disclosed a mechanism to send the invitation message that includes user identification via a text device or via a voice communication device, but fails to disclose sending it via email [Para 0018].

However, Detampel et al disclosed use of email interface over the network in their audio conference system [column 5, lines 9-19].

Therefore it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to use the teachings of Detampel et al to use email interface in the system of Liversidge et al to send telephone number and identification code via email.

Regarding claim 12,24, Liversidge et al disclosed a chat client and an instant messaging client [Para 0073, 0091], but fails to disclose on-line tool. However, Detampel et al disclosed mechanism for other on line clients using web browsers and html tools for the conference [column 11, lines 46-67, column 12, lines 1-10].

Therefore it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to use the teachings of Detampel et al to use the on line tools in the system of Liversidge et al for a variety of clients such as chat client, an instant messaging client, and an on-line tool.

Conclusion

4.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The prior art in reference here are Liversidge et al and Detampel et al.
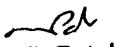

5.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications should be directed to the attention to Venkatesh Haliyur whose phone number is 571-272-8616. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wellington Chin can be reached @ (571)-272-3134.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (571)-272-2600 or fax to 571-273-8300.

6.   Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197(toll-free).

Ajit Patel
Primary Examiner